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|  | STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE State Form 39870(R/S-06) | Reference Number TRA-011 |
| | Subject Deactivation of Weapons Used in Special Training Programs | |
| | Special Instructions Replaces TRA-011 dated January 15, 2015 | Effective Date July 6, 2018 |

I. PURPOSE

Establish guidelines for firearms used in training programs other than firearms range practice and qualifications.

II. POLICY

Department personnel engaged in training which utilizes a weapon for any purpose other than for live firearms training shall not use the weapon until it is modified so it cannot fire live ammunition and is marked to indicate to the casual observer the weapon is deactivated or inoperable.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. MARKINGS – Grips of handguns and stocks of rifles and shotguns must be marked with the color indicating whether the training weapon has been deactivated or made inoperable.

COLORS – Indicating inoperable or deactivation:

1. GREEN – Weapon is completely inoperable;
2. YELLOW – Weapon is deactivated but is capable of firing a projectile which is non-lethal; and
3. RED/BLUE – Weapon is capable of firing a non-lethal but potentially injurious projectile. (These weapons will be deactivated).

B. TRAINING WEAPON – A weapon designed or modified to be used in training exercises and will not cause serious bodily injury or death when properly used. Any weapon which requires modification prior to use as a Training Weapon will be classified as:

1. INOPERABLE – Altered to the point the firearm **will not function**.
2. DEACTIVATED – Altered so the firearm is **not capable of firing** live ammunition.

C. WEAPON – Any firearm (including, but not limited to: shotgun, rifle or handgun) which is capable of firing a projectile, or projectiles, and has the potential to cause injury or death.

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Training Weapons shall be made inoperable by a Department armorer and indicated as inoperable by the following methods:

1. Remove the hammer nose or firing pin; or
2. Place a sleeve inside all cylinder or chamber openings to prevent loading of ammunition (live or plastic); or
3. Weld cylinder, slide, or action closed; and
4. Mark grips and/or stocks green.

B. Training weapons shall be deactivated by a Department armorer to allow the weapon to fire a non-lethal projectile and indicated as deactivated by the following methods:

1. Place a sleeve inside the cylinder or chamber to allow the loading of a casing from which only a non-injurious projectile may be fired; and
2. Grips and/or stocks must be marked with yellow, red or blue markings to be consistent with the level of deactivation.

C. Training weapons will be utilized in, but not limited to: shooting decision programs, Field Tactics & Techniques and any other force on force scenario based training.

D. It will be the **Safety Officer's responsibility** involved in a training exercise **to inspect and ensure all weapons** used in the training exercise **are either deactivated or inoperable**. The Safety Officer will ensure no live ammunition or weapons containing live ammunition are allowed into the training area.

E. Duty Weapons

1. Duty weapons used during a training exercise will be rendered incapable of firing live ammunition or any type of training ammunition.
2. Duty weapons will be marked to indicate to the casual observer the weapon has been modified to prevent the firing of any live ammunition or any type of training ammunition.

F. **Blank ammunition will be fired only from training weapons specifically designed to fire blank ammunition.** The only exception to this will be the use of issued shotguns during an Honor Guard Ceremony.

G. When training weapons are used, a firearms instructor or designated safety officer must be present.

H. This procedure is to be used in conjunction with all relevant Department regulations, rules, policies and procedures.